

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Human Epidemiological Situation,
First Quarter of 1953

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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2. Typhoid

- a. New cases of typhoid reached an unusually high figure in January 1953. In March 1953, the figures for new cases were 404 higher than in March 1952. "the cause of the increase in new cases lies in the many individual new cases reported and in the poor sanitation conditions in urban areas". this winter rise in new cases was an alarm signal for the summer.

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- b. Figures were particularly high in the Mecklenburg area and there was an epidemic in Ballenstedt.

3. Paratyphoid

There were few new cases of this disease. In March 1953, there were 23 new cases in East Germany (including East Berlin).

4. Dysentery

The figures for this disease were low. An epidemic was reported from the Bautzen area.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC				
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5. Diphtheria

Some increase was noted as compared with the first quarter of 1952. In Saxony-Anhalt there were frequent cases of toxic diphtheria, which were fatal, in spite of serum treatment.

6. Scarlet fever

There was a decrease in the number of cases of scarlet fever as compared with last year. There were 6,900 new cases reported in the first quarter of 1953.

7. Poliomyelitis

February 1953	-	5 new cases	} East German totals.
March 1953	-	7 new cases	

8. Rabies

In March 1953, 138 persons were taken to Erfurt or Potsdam for protective inoculations.

9. Epidemic hepatitis

There was a general decrease in figures compared with the first quarter of 1952, but there were still rather frequent outbreaks in Saxony and Thuringia.

10. Bang's disease (Brucella)

In March 1953, 4 new cases in the East Germany were reported

11. Virus influenza

No epidemics.

12. Anthrax

There was one suspected case in the first quarter of 1953 in Magdeburg. This, however, could not be confirmed as the patient had been treated with penicillin before bacteriological investigation could be undertaken.

13. Leptospirosis

In the first quarter of 1953, there was only 1 new case reported in East Germany. The Ministry does not believe, however, that this reflects the true situation.

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14. Tularemia

There were 2 new cases in Kreis Teterow (Mecklenburg).

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